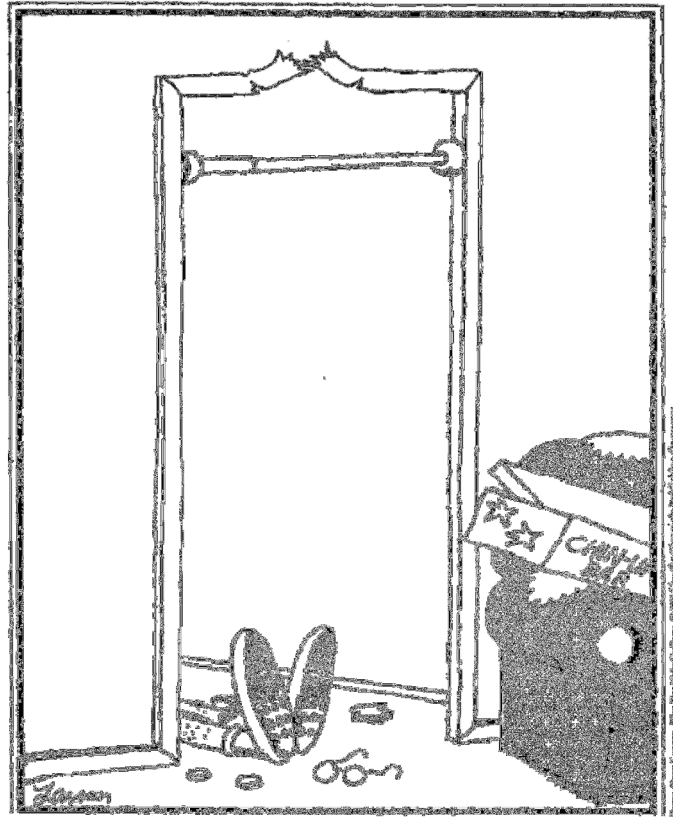


Name _____

Observations and Inferences

The Far Side



1. Write a detailed account of what happened in the cartoon.

2. Reread the account you wrote. Underline your observations and circle your inferences.

3. Making observations is not as straightforward as you might think. The mind interprets what we sense. For the following statements, place an “O” next to observations and an “I” next to inferences.

- a) _____ The door frame is broken.
- b) _____ The person is wearing shoes and socks.
- c) _____ The person pictured is a man.
- d) _____ The chin-up bar is set too high.
- e) _____ The person pictured has poor eyesight.
- f) _____ The person is lying on their back.
- g) _____ The person is injured.
- h) _____ The frame of the glasses is bent.
- i) _____ The person is a teenager.
- j) _____ This was the first time the individual used a chin-up bar.
- k) _____ The chin-up bar box is sitting on a piece of furniture.
- l) _____ The chin-up bar is new.

4. Scientists make inferences as they attempt to develop answers to questions about natural phenomena. Even though their answers are consistent with the evidence available, often no single answer or story solely accounts for that evidence. Nevertheless, as with the case of this cartoon, some inferences are better supported by multiple observations.

Create two different inferences to explain why the person is on the ground. For each inference, provide 2 pieces of supporting evidence.

- Inference #1:
 - Evidence:
 - Evidence:
- Inference #2:
 - Evidence:
 - Evidence:

5. Indicate which inference is most plausible by drawing a star next to it. Give at least one more piece of additional evidence that supports this inference.